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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 33 | Min 22 | Humidity 81% Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain Sensex 61,872 | Nifty 18,321 | Gold 60,920 | Silver 76,500 | Dollar 82.75 | Euro 88.77 | GBP 102.08

CITY / PAGE 2

TURN THE PAGE

'Desaffronising' textbooks, a complex process

CITY / PAGE 3

DON'T PARK THERE

Parking facility lacuna at our metro stations

Dumped garbage, construction and demolition waste, silt block rajakaluve grates, leaving no space for rainwater to flow into

GRATE GRIME STORY

No point removing silt from drains, if it is not cleared away

| Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

READY FOR MONSOON?

After the recent episodes of flooding, officials have come to the conclusion that roadside garbage and construction and demolition (C&D) waste dumping has aggravated the issue. Drains get choked with the waste, and have no capacity to hold rain water.

Efforts by officials to clear garbage and C&D waste from the roads and drains have not worked entirely.

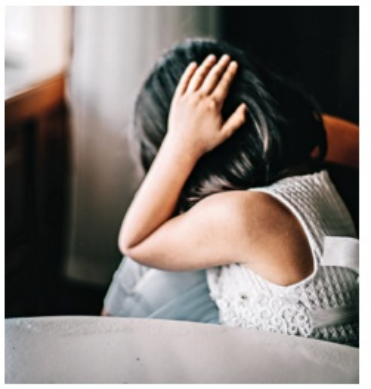
Chairman of Mahadevapura Task Force (Jal Shakthi) Clement Jayakumar told BM that for the newly developed roads, they have installed gratings to stop the waste from entering the drains. "But even one single piece of dry waste can block the grating. This could also lead to water-logging on streets.

Another issue is roadside garbage dumping in areas without grating. Here the waste enters the drains and flows into the rajakaluve. People are also dumping garbage directly into rajakaluve at the culverts. Due to this, the rajakaluve

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »

> **"Reckless dumping of debris is happening on both sides of the road. There is a need for regular upkeep by pourakarmikas to remove waste off the roads. In some cases, grates are missing in drains leading to waste entering it**
>
> — Senior marshal

THE DEEP BLUES



Children as young as 5-6 years old on antidepressant, anti-anxiety pills

| Garima Prasher
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An increasing number of children in the city, some as young as five and six years old, are being prescribed antidepressants and anti-anxiety pills. Mental healthcare professionals say that since the proportion of cases has increased during and post-pandemic, the number of children needing medication has also increased.

"The number of children needing these medications has increased. Kids as young as 5 to 6 years, are taking these pills when the illness is so severe that it is not responding to other psychotherapy; or when there is an urgent need for improvement due to the severity of the illness," said Dr Raghavendra Kumar K, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Rainbow Children's Hospital.

Doctors say antidepressant and anti-anxiety pills are prescribed for children when they start experiencing the impact of the illness on sleep, appetite, academics,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Epic tales

Few stories in the world are as intriguing as the Mahabharata, with its numerous plots and subplots and characters having strengths and flaws in equal measure. 'Stories from the Mahabharata' is an endeavour by Aparna Jaishankar to recreate an interest in this epic. **Where: Lahe Lahe**
When: March 27, 5-6 pm; Tickets: 9886294444

02 Stories and more

Atta Galatta presents "I Am So Much More" in collaboration with HarperCollins. Divya Thomas is a storyteller and campaigner for gender equality and the environment. She is passionate about changing the narrative to empower both young children and grown-up children (adults) to redefine our world. **W Where: Atta Galatta**
When: May 27, 4 pm; Contact: 9632510126

03 Musical times!

EYM Trio feat Varijashree Venugopal to perform at Windmills. EYM Trio is inspired by the genius of historic jazz figures and the rhythmic influences of jazz masters. Due to the intentional diversity in their compositions and improvisations, their music is aesthetically pleasing and inviting. They orchestrate a perfect balance between unconventional rhythms and musical harmony, while playfulness and sensitivity characterize their compositions' subtle yet exciting sound.
Where: Windmills; When: May 26, 27, 9:30pm onwards; Tickets: https://windmills-india.com

Textbook cleansing? Not again, say students

A textbook revision now might hamper academic progress of students, say experts

Sridhar Vivan
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A new government has recently taken over, and a new academic year is about to start. The Congress party had earlier announced that it would revamp the textbooks and "desaffronise" them. However, students and teachers are worried that any attempt to change the textbooks at this juncture could jeopardise the academic year.

This year, most of the textbooks have reached classrooms. In fact, the education department claims that it has already published 95 per cent of the books.

A senior official said, "The textbooks were revised by the previous BJP government, where a panel headed by Rohit Chakrateertha undertook the process. The textbook revision had earlier kicked up a controversy, where the opposition parties had alleged that the textbooks were 'saffronised'. Following this, the Congress party in its manifesto had said that it would cleanse the textbooks which were saffronised earlier. Now, with textbooks already sent to schools, parents and students are worried as to what will happen to the existing textbooks if any such move is taken now."

> **We have already invested thousands on textbooks and cannot afford to buy a fresh set again**
> - Sunil Kumar, a parent

Currently, around 1.06 crore students are studying from class one to 10 in 72,743 schools, including government, private aided, and unaided schools.

It may be noted that during the previous revision by the BJP government, there were discrepancies in lessons related to Buddha, Kuvempu, Kannada flag, and other topics. This had also embarrassed the then Bommai government. However, by then the first set of textbooks had been sent to schools. Hence, a rejoinder was again printed and sent to schools.

Educationist VP Niranjan Aradhya said, "It may not be feasible to revise the textbooks as of now. Instead, the education department can issue a circular stating that students should not be taught on controversial subjects." M Prasanna Kumar, director of primary education, said that it was not feasible to revise the textbooks at this juncture.

Sources said that as of now, the eight ministers who have been sworn in have not been allocated portfolios, and there is still no clarity as to who will be the minister for school education. The new minister, with the consent of the chief minister, has to take a call on this, and for this a new panel has to be set up. The new panel should be given more time to come up with its recommendations, which will then have to be approved by the government, and then fresh textbooks will have to be printed. As of now, 6.39 crore textbooks have been printed at a cost of Rs 269 crore. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that the next cabinet will take a call on the issue.

Sunil Kumar, a parent said, "Any new textbook has to be only at the beginning of the academic year. We have already invested thousands of rupees to buy textbooks and we will not be in a position to buy a fresh set. It will be an unnecessary burden on the students as they will be confused."

Time to fulfil citizens' constitutional promises

Rachana Ramesh
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Bahutva Karnataka, a civil society organisation, has written to the Chief Minister demanding action be taken to ensure constitutional promises are ensured for every citizen of Bengaluru.

They want, among other things, restoration of the right to protest outside the premises of Freedom Park, a pre-legislative consultation policy, withdrawal of laws like APMC act and anti-conversion act, education cess on big businesses to increase spending on education and steps to address untouchability.

Bahutva Karnataka had evaluated the previous regime's performance and impact, and released a set of report cards specific to several sectors including education, health care, nutrition and rights of women among others prior to the elections.

Drawing from these report cards, they have now suggested some urgent and long-term measures that the government needs to implement.

The organisation has asked for strengthened action against gender-based violence across the state, focusing on both prevention and redressal, including holding public representatives accountable for misogynistic statements, regardless of the parties they represent and ensuring a more sensitive implementation of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO). They have also asked to restore the mid-day meal scheme without any compromise on established nutritional guidelines and ensuring smooth functioning of the scheme while cancelling contracts with centralised kitchens, especially those with ideological agendas that refuse to provide eggs or use onion and garlic.

They have demanded to tackle the persistent practice of manual scavenging, which remains a blot on Karnataka's development record, with people continuing to die while pursuing the occupation and to ensure that all people engaged in the activity are identified and provided with a one-time grant, rehabilitation and pension.

Along with this, a demand for the children of people engaged in such caste-based occupations – municipal workers, Group D staff, mortuary workers, sanitation workers, people engaged in manual scavenging and the devadasi community -- to be provided with scholarships to enable them to break out of these hereditary occupations has been made.

Healthy, nutritional mid-day meals are part of the demands by the organisation

Hunt for parking takes sheen off metro rides

At areas with no feeder bus facilities, commuters say metro travel becomes too cumbersome

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Some commuters prefer to get their vehicles to the stations for easy last-mile connectivity

Lack of parking facilities at the metro stations is an issue for those who use personal vehicles for first and last mile connectivity, say metro users.

Manisha Morab, an architecture student, uses the Rajajinagar metro station on a daily basis. He said commuters who get their two-wheelers use the parking spaces available at nearby areas. "If those spaces are entirely occupied, then we have to find a spot somewhere in the vicinity but very far away in comparison. It's time-consuming and not easy to do," she said. Manisha explained that she is forced to use her vehicle for connectivity as there is a lack of any other reliable transport option. "There are feeder buses on the route offering a connection but they are available only on one side," she added.

Opting out

Yatish Chandra, an IT employee, noted that commuters with two-wheelers have it much better than those with four-wheelers.

"While the two-wheelers can be crammed into nooks and corners around the metro stations, those with four-wheelers have no other option but to use their vehicle for the entire trip. The lack of parking facilities is a major issue and a reason why many like me have to opt out of taking the metro," he said.

Faraz Abdul, who uses the Attiguppe metro station frequently, said that it takes about 10 minutes each day to find a spot of parking for his bike in the service roads nearby.

"I travel in the metro to save an average of 10 minutes but the same amount of time gets used up while I try to look for parking. There are no feeder buses available in my vicinity. One needs to walk a long distance to reach the nearest bus stop. If the BMTC ran loop buses running through neighborhoods, it would be much more convenient," he explained. He added that the metro can monetise its parking services if they are provided at a minimum price, as commuters would pay the fare considering that their vehicles would be safe.

> **We have been providing first and last mile connectivity through feeder buses, people must make a switch**
>
> –BL Yashwanth, BMRCL

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) Chief Public Relations Officer BL Yashwanth Chavan told Bangalore Mirror that wherever the corporation holds space, they have provided parking facilities. When asked if BMRCL hopes to upgrade these facilities in the future by land acquisition or building multi-storey parking complexes, he said that there are no such plans as of now. "The public must also think of better ways of travel and use public transport. We have been providing first and last mile connectivity through feeder buses, with its network consistently increasing, people must make a switch," he said.

IN BRIEF

Cong worker murdered

A Congress worker was brutally murdered by five persons who came on bikes near Chowdeshwari Nagar, said the police on Thursday. The deceased has been identified as Ravi aka Matthiravi. Bengaluru north DCP Shiva Prakash Devaraju said an FIR has been registered on a complaint of the deceased's wife. "During a birthday celebration of one Krishna Murthy, a fight broke out between two groups when five people attacked Matthiravi with a knife and stones," the DCP said. **ANI**

Escape bid proves fatal

The police department handed over the case of death of an accused when they were trying to take him into custody, to the Criminal Investigation Department on Thursday. Mohammad Hussain died after jumping from the fourth floor of the house near Begur Road in Bommanahalli police station limits on Wednesday night. Hussain had jumped in a bid to escape the police.

The family members had alleged that the accused was assaulted and pushed to death by the police officers. According to police, Hussain was indulging in criminal activities and a case of extortion under IPC Section 384 was lodged against him. **IANS**

Auto driver rams into techie

An incident of a software professional waiting for a rapido bike being hit by an auto has been reported from Bengaluru. The auto driver got enraged when the victim refused to pay him exorbitant fare and decided to book a Rapido bike.

According to police, the incident took place at 3.30 am on Thursday in HSR Layout Sector One area. The act was caught on CCTV camera. The footage shows the victim speaking to the auto driver for sometime and walking away from his vehicle. Later, the auto driver suddenly crashes his vehicle on him. The techie fell on the road and by the time he got up, the auto driver had fled. **IANS**

Knock-knock BWSSB: Waiting for next water day

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Residents of Prashanth Layout have alleged that they are forced to pay extra for water tankers due to frequent disruptions in water supply. A resident said that recently, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) issued a notice stating that there was damage to the water line feeding Hoodi GLR during BMRCL work.

This will stop the entire water inflow into GLR at Hoodi, which was providing water to various areas of the Mahadevpura region. This will cause disruptions in water supply in various areas. "We understand that BWSSB is not at fault, but apart from this notice, no alternatives have been provided to the residents, and we have to pay extra to buy water tankers," said a resident.

Radha Kannan told Bangalore Mirror, "I am aged over 70 years and live with my husband. It has been quite tough for us to manage during water disruptions. Now, with summer holidays ongoing, our grandchildren are visiting, and the demand for water has increased. We are forced to buy water from tankers at exorbitant prices, and the prices are constantly hiked. Earlier, each tanker used to cost Rs 500, but now it has been increased to Rs 600."

Purushothaman, a senior citizen staying at Prashanth Extension for more than 25 years, said he lives with his family and grandchildren. "After our resident welfare association took up the matter with BWSSB, we were the first layout to get Cauvery water supply. Lately, we have been facing an acute shortage of water. Now, it is rationed to one day a week, which is not sufficient for a day's consumption. Most of the residents are senior citizens, retired from defense and government or private sectors. We need support from BWSSB to meet our basic requirements. We cannot afford private tankers as they are very costly and unreliable."

> **Residents of Prashant Layout claim due to disruption in supply, they are dependent on water tankers**

Moreover, he said that the quality of tanker water is not potable. The cost of a tractor tanker is Rs 600, which is not all affordable for him as his family requires four to five tankers in a month. "We are looking for a permanent solution from the water supply board," he added.

Mahesh Koganti, a 60-year-old resident, said water supply has always been a concern. "I have spent a lot of money to install water supplied by the erstwhile CMC. Even after getting a BWSSB (Cauvery water) connection, there are still many disruptions. I am spending between Rs 2,000 - Rs 4,000 a month to buy water from private suppliers."

Devika R, another resident, said some authority must monitor and fix prices for water tankers. "Every resident hiring a water tanker is forced to pay the amount dictated by tanker owners. If we don't pay the amount demanded, then there is no water for us. It is high time the government steps in and reins in the tanker prices."

Something's fishy here

Fish kills seen at Chelekere and Madiwala lakes

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While close to 50 fish were seen dead in Chelekere Lake a number of fish also died at Madiwala Lake. These incidents were spotted by visitors to the lake; officials are yet to take any action

Pre-monsoon showers are impacting the city as many areas are getting flooded and trees are being uprooted. Several instances of fish kills are being reported too. The most recent one was reported at the Chelekere Lake, located at Babusapalya and Madiwala Lake in BTM Layout.

Close to 50 fish were found dead at the lake that is located behind the Hennur police station. The lake is called 'mini Ulsoor' by regular walkers and joggers. Despite the rich biodiversity of the lake, with many different species of flora and fauna, it is in a bad state with poor water quality. The residents said that the water level has been going down and sewage is entering the lake.

A regular walker and resident of Babusapalya, Haribhaskaran, said, "Just a few days ago, when I observed the lake, I saw that the amount of water had reduced. I decided to go on a recce at the lake which was an eye opener. As starters we counted about 50 dead fish at various places, particularly where waste disposal was high. Some of the dead fish were on the embankment, rotten. From the inlet we saw sewage flowing into the lake. We also observed that in certain places of the lake garbage was being dumped."

Haribhaskaran said that the issue was quite serious and some of the fish must have been dead for a long time as they looked rotten. "We cannot attribute this to the pre-monsoon showers. The water quality at the lake should be monitored and quick action should be taken to arrest sewage inflow," he said, adding that a complaint has been made to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB).

However, BBMP Lakes CE, Vijay Kumar Haridas, said, "The BWSSB should implement measures to create diversion channels and stop sewage inflow. In monsoon, we see overflow of sewage into the lake. Hence, fish kill incidents are observed in many lakes." A similar incident was reported at Madiwala Lake where a number of fish were found dead. The lake is under the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD). Forest officials told Bangalore Mirror that they were unaware of the incident.

> **"The BWSSB should implement measures to create diversion channels and stop sewage inflow. In monsoon, sewage overflows into lakes** – Vijay Kumar Haridas, BBMP

Naveen Kumar, resident of BTM Layout, said, "From the past three days, there is a foul smell near the lake. We noticed a number of dead fish while walking around. We had reported about sewage entering the lake a few years ago as well. While measures were taken to arrest the same, it has not worked in the long run. This problem is being observed now again. It needs immediate attention and improvement."

Waste plant closure 'election gimmick'

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MLA Satish Reddy and others near the KCDC plant demanding closure of the plant

Residents of HSR Layout, especially those residing adjacent to the Karnataka Compost Development Corporation (KCDC) plant, were elated to see the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) putting up a board stating that the plant is closed.

This happened after 20 days of the model code of conduct coming into effect. The residents, who have been suffering a lot due to the bad odour emanating from the accumulated garbage inside the KCDC plant, thought that their problems were addressed. However, they were shocked to see the plant functioning after the Assembly elections.

"The plant was closed in April. It was reopened on May 16, which proved that it was an election gimmick. The KCDC management has not taken measures to clear the Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) from its premises.

It is estimated that more than 15,000 tonnes of RDF have accumulated, posing a potential health or fire hazard. It is a threat to the environment. The management claims they are clearing the RDF, but work has yet to begin," said Sachin Pandith, a resident of the area. He mentioned that it would take the KCDC two or three months to clear the RDF if work begins immediately.

Some residents claimed a similar gimmick was done during the Assembly election in 2018, but the plant was reopened after the election. "It has become very tough for us to live here. My mother has an eye problem, so she has had to stay in Mumbai because she could not cope with the pollution and bad odour. There are five or six schools around the plant, and I am concerned about how the children will cope with the bad odour," said Srinath Shenoy, another resident.

He expressed that the accumulated RDF has become a cause for concern for residents in the vicinity. "The KCDC management spent Rs 3 crore to install biofilters to reduce the stench emanating from the accumulated garbage and RDF, but those biofilters only worked for a few days. We have complained to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), but it has been in vain," he added.

The residents claimed that MLA Satish Reddy was present when a board was put up stating that the plant is closed. They mentioned that it was not the first time the MLA announced the closure of the plant. According to them, the MLA had told them in 2018 that it would be closed, but continued to function regardless.

"It has become a habit for politicians and authorities to issue a statement or put up a board during the elections stating that the plant will be closed. They reopen the plant after the election," said another resident. When contacted, an assistant manager of KCDC said the plant was shut down for 20 days during the election to prevent stench.

Meanwhile, the BBMP Joint Commissioner (Bommanahalli) stated that the plant was shut down for maintenance purposes. "There is no alternative place to process the waste. The BBMP has taken measures to shift the accumulated RDF from the KCDC plant premises. The tender process is ongoing, and the shifting of the RDF will begin shortly," said the joint commissioner.

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Collapse risk

Anand Rao Circle

The warning signal indicator pole at the entry of Anand Rao Circle flyover has sustained damage, posing a risk of collapse.

Dangerous banner

Seshadripuram

Illegal banners not only breach regulations but also pose dangers, such as this protruding stick on a banner tied in front of Apollo Hospital, Seshadripuram.

Vanishing board

Mantri Mall metro station

The name board in front of the Mantri Mall metro station has mysteriously vanished.

Trouble in animal kingdom

Animal rescue centres stressed due to frequent allegations of negligence, threats

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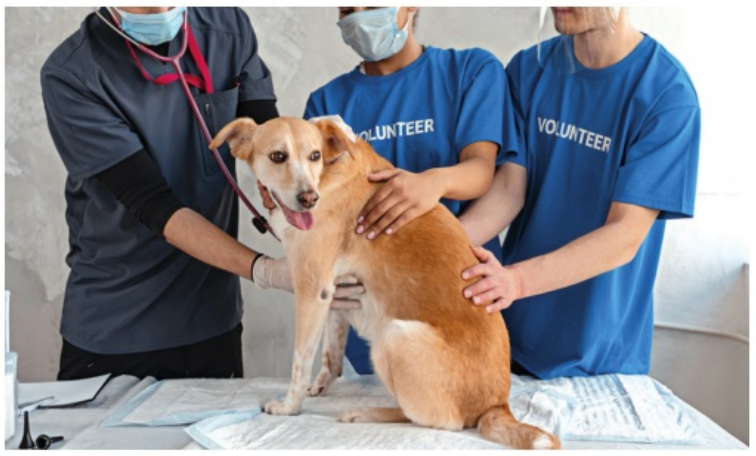
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Animal rescue centres across the city have come forward in support of ALAI pet clinic, a clinic cum rescue centre after a first information report (FIR) was filed against it recently for allegedly causing the death of an injured dog that was admitted there for treatment.

According to the FIR filed at the Vidyaranyapura police station, the complainant said that the centre's staff delayed transferring the injured dog for treatment at another veterinary clinic in the city, leading to its death.

Animal rescue centres say there is a growing trend of filing cases against rescue centres in the city and bashing them on social media, creating a fearful environment. So much so that shelters are increasingly becoming hesitant to entertain volunteers calling with cases of injured and marooned animals on the street.



Centres say that baseless allegations and complaints are demoralising

"A handful of independent rescuers believe that no animal can die in the shelter. However, the fact is that a large portion of the injured animals that come to us are on their last breath and all we can do is try to make it less painful for them," said Sudha Narayanan, founder of CARE (Charlie's Animal Rescue Centre).

According to the centres' representatives, it is not just false cases that give them sleepless nights. They say they are targeted with death threats and vandalism too. The threats are under the pretext of running a for-profit organisation.

"We run rescue centres because we believe that these voiceless beings need hands-on help. Rescuers pick up the animals and put them in the shelter. However, the real work begins after that. Sometimes these animals die on us. Regarding the allegation of making money, we have a FCRA license, and our accounts are edited regularly. Funds happen with credibility and accountability," added Narayanan. Centres say that baseless allegations and complaints are demoralising and take a toll on the staff and volunteers.

> **A handful of rescuers believe that no animal can die in the shelter. However, a large number of injured animals that come to us are on their last breath**
>
> – Sudha Narayanan, founder of CARE

Moreover, this environment has made them suspicious of every rescue call they receive.

"I have seen ALAI's work, and this FIR was uncalled for. I have seen dogs in the best of their health collapsing and dying; let alone street dogs that sustain injuries and do not get immediate help. In most accident cases involving dogs, their organs start failing after 48 hours without any prior sign. While every veterinarian at centres such as ours tries their best to save the animal, they don't succeed sometimes. I run a rescue centre and I know how difficult it is to get funds to keep it running. Such incidents have made us apprehensive about every rescue call," said Girish Anjenappa, a member of Animal Rights Fund, another city-based animal rescue centre.

Suparna Baski Ganguly, co-founder trustee of CUPA, says a handful of feeders and rescuers have become aggressive and arrogant.

With such circumstances, authorities must look at formulating a committee of domain experts who can carry out periodic assessments of rescue centres and file reports.

"Although only a handful, there are people who are not aware of our working environment and challenges," said Ganguly.

Namma Metro invites bids for station kiosks

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BMRCL will be renting out vacant spaces in metro stations to establish retail outlets. The measure is expected to earn crores in non-fare revenue.

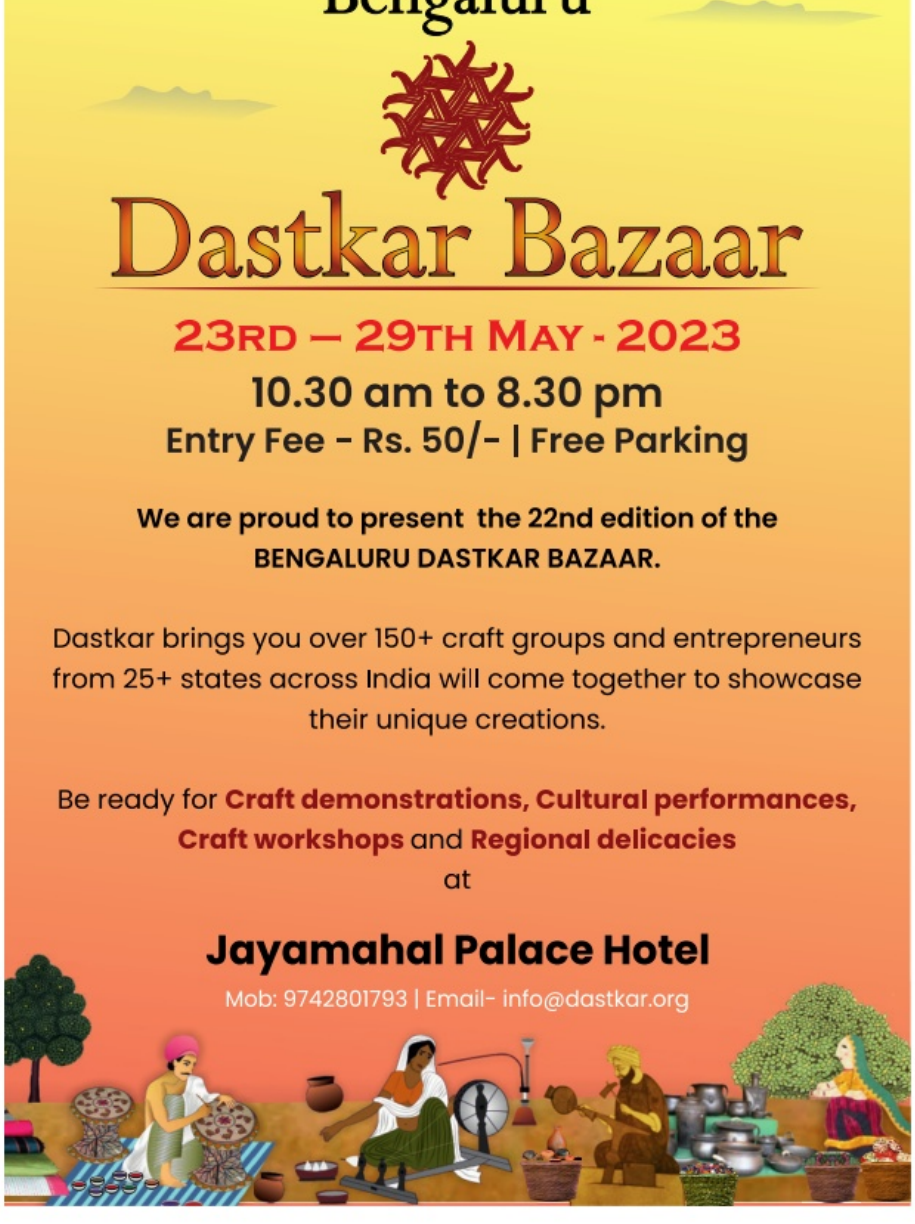
BMRCL has identified 100 vacant spaces across 24 metro stations. A tender has been floated to invite bids. Bidders will be leased out spaces in stations based on their financial capability for a term of five-10 years.

"The Namma Metro stations are located in prime locations and are recognised by marketing professionals as a consumer. BMRCL proposes to leverage both the brand 'Namma Metro' and the stations and properties being located in the vicinity of major commercial hubs of Bengaluru for realising a potential source of non-fare revenue. One of the sources of non-fare revenue is through licensing of spaces for commercial use in and around the metro stations. The proper survey has been made for selecting the choice of the commercial vacant spaces at the respective stations to serve the commuters' daily needs while in transit to work or during their return journey," read the tender.

In total, 155,034 square feet of vacant spaces have been identified at 24 Namma Metro stations. Spaces have been identified at Baiyappanahalli, SV Road, Indiranagar, Halasuru, Trinity, MG Road, Vijayanagara, Attuguppe, Kengeri Bus Terminal, Nagasandra, Dasarahalli, Jalahalli, Yeshwanthpur, Mahalakshmi, Rajajinagar, Srirampura, Mantri Square Sampige Road, NadaPrabhu Kempegowda, Chickpet, National College, Lalbagh, Jayanagara, Banashankari, and JP Nagara.

For a minimum reserved licensing fee and EMD, BMRCL will allow the setup of secure kiosks as per the concept plan approved by BMRCL. The licensing fee varies from station to station. To meet the energy requirements, Namma Metro will provide 75 KW of electricity per station. The licensee will have to arrange additional energy requirements.

After awarding the tender, a joint inspection will be carried out with the successful bidder. During the joint inspection, the location and area in the specific station will be finaliSed, and on a pro-rata basis, the license fee and the security deposit will be calculated. The license agreement will be signed accordingly. The successful bidder can do any kind of business in the awarded space, subject to what is permitted under law.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New home address? Sarjapur & Whitefield

Properties in these two areas are being scooped up like hot cakes

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

With the real estate market seeing a boost with significant surge with investors and buyers choosing prime locations to buy properties, Sarjapur and Whitefield's regions have become the most popular options, catching the interest of buyers. Factors like tech parks, connectivity, commercial hotspots in these areas are driving this high demand.

According to NoBroker, Whitefield saw a 20 per cent increase while also improving rental yield to 4 per cent, while Sarjapur Road (excluding Sarjapur village) saw a 22 per cent increase in monthly rentals.

As Whitefield & Sarjapur are the IT corridors of Bengaluru, it has become a major employment hub that hosts many companies and has become a space for people to opt for houses here. This apart, commercial infrastructure of these areas features prominent shopping malls and other restaurants and hotels that has attracted residential as well has commercial buyers.

Saurabh Garg, co-founder & chief business officer of NoBroker said, "From 2022-2023, we have observed increase in monthly rentals in Whitefield and Sarjapur. Whitefield, the average rent for 2 BHK increased from Rs 21,000 to 25,000 per month and in Bellandur the average rent for 2BHK increased from Rs 22,000 to Rs 28,000. People prefer apartment complexes. Two BHK and 3BHK are popular choices as they need more room as post covid, many companies are still either working from home or on hybrid model."

The Whitefield - KR Puram metro line has been another add-on that has greatly improved the connectivity and will further improve through the upcoming metro link of Byappanahalli to KR Puram which will enable residents in this area for end-to-end metro connectivity.

Kranti V Alladi, Sales and Marketing Head, Concorde also agreed to similar trend observed. "With both Whitefield and Sarjapur being relatively new micro-markets, we see a trend of millennials preferring to buy or rent properties in these areas. One of the reasons for this would be the significant presence of IT and non-IT industries in this area and nearby emerging micro markets such as Hoskote and Malur which provide multiple job options and consequent growth in demand for both purchase and rent."

This apart, Alladi also pointed out that another main reason to trigger interest in these localities is the substantial infrastructure growth especially over the last five years. "This has enabled developers to offer better homes that deliver more in terms of amenities and technology and that are in sync with the new age home-buyer. Rentals in these localities would range from Rs 25,000 for 1 BHK homes to Rs 40,000 for 2 BHK homes and Rs 55,000 to Rs 60,000 for 3 BHK homes," said Alladi.

Whitefield's Metro connectivity and Sarjapur's IT corridor makes them popular residential choices

> **"People prefer 2 BHKs and 3 BHKs as post covid, many are continuing to work remotely**
>
> – Saurabh Garg, co-founder & chief business officer of NoBroker

Of urban slum dwellers & land rights

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To understand the status of people living in urban slums and their land rights, a national convention on land and housing rights of urban deprived communities is being held in the city.

The two-day event, which began on Thursday, is witnessing 60 participants from 11 states across India who are here to present their strategies and struggles to ensure the rights of the urban deprived communities on the question of land, housing, and basic amenities.

The participants, most of them representing such communities in their respective cities are also engaging in discussion around the available legal opportunities for ensuring land rights and different approaches for reclaiming land and ensuring dignified housing and life.

"The goal of the convention is to create a model policy framework to address the land rights and human rights concerns of urban deprived communities across India and Karnataka. Land rights for the urban deprived community should be the means and not the end for ensuring their dignified life in urban areas. Access to basic services like dignified housing, water and sanitation facilities, electricity, and other utility services should follow the right to urban land," said a representative of Slum Jana Sangathane, an organisation working for the rights and empowerment of slum dwellers in Karnataka.

The convention is being organised by Slum Jana Sangathane in association with ActionAid Association, another city-based organisation working for the uplift-ment of slum dwellers.

According to the workers from these organisations, while the land right of nearly 1.2 lakh households of urban deprived communities across Karnataka has been recognised so far, issues of sale deed and registration are not resolved yet.

They say it is important to recognise the contribution of workers from the informal sector.

"Through the convention, we also want to learn from other states and understand the challenges. Urbanisation is not by accident but is a systematic plan of the state, akin to economic growth. However, with urbanisation also comes a big migrant population in search of livelihood options. Naturally, the city has to protect its human rights. While this population contributes towards the growth of the urban economy, the share that they get is negligible. Their land, housing, and health aspects must be considered by the government," said Nandhini of ActionAid Association.

Empowering Lambani women

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Many Lambani women in Vijayapura have to work as labourers in agriculture fields or quarries to make both ends meet due to poverty or lack of awareness about facilities available for them. They often find it tough to market the embroidery costumes made by them. Now, to slightly ease the marketing facilities for the embroidery costumes made by them, two entrepreneurs are giving their works more visibility with the help of Banjara Kasuti, a social programme.

According to Asha Patil and Seema Kishore, the objective of Banjara Kasuti is to preserve and revive vanishing culture and hand embroidery techniques of Lambani women in Vijayapura region.

"I began Banjara Kasuti with 22 Lambani women and now around 30 Lambani women are with us. All of them are paid Rs 250 each per day and they can do embroidery work at their homes," said Asha Patil.

"I am from Vijayapura. I happened to see women from Banjara community work in agricultural fields leaving infants at home. Most of them had no other option than working in the agriculture field. They had to work hard to make both ends meet. Some of them had to depend on Goa to sell embroidery products. They are all set to stop doing embroidery work as they consider it is not profitable," she added.

Asha Patil and Seema Kishore at a Banjara Kasuti stall

She put up a Banjara Kasuti stall at Dastkar Bazar at Jayamahal Palace Hotel in Bengaluru. "The response is very good. It is the third time I put up a stall in Bengaluru. Prior to this, I put up a Banjara Kasuti stall at an exhibition held at Rain Tree," she said, adding that she has a plan to accommodate more Lambani women and create an international market for their embroidery products.

She said that Banjara Kasuti is also in talks with cotton and khadi weavers in Vijayapura. "We can procure cotton and khadi cloth for Lambani embroidery products," she said.

Lalitha Jadhav, a 48-year-old Lambani homemaker, told Bangalore Mirror over the phone from Vijayapura that she has been associated with Banjara Kasuti for more than seven years. "I am also comfortable at home," said Lalitha Jadhav.

Savitha, a 26-year-old Lambani woman, said that she is very happy to work for Banjara Kasuti. "I get Rs 300 per day if I work in an agriculture field but it is very tough. I am very happy with Rs 250 per day because I need not go out in the sun," she said.

HEALTH TIP: Liquid sugar calories don't get registered by the brain in the same way as calories from solid foods, so you end up consuming more calories

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IT'S IN YOUR HEAD

Five rare and unusual psychiatric syndromes – including one where people believe they are dead

Most people are familiar with psychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, but some conditions are so rare that many psychiatrists won't come across a single case in their professional lives. Here I present five of the rarest – and strangest – syndromes known to us.

1 Fregoli syndrome

Fregoli syndrome is where someone believes that different people are in fact the same person who just changes their appearance. People with this syndrome often feel persecuted by those they believe to be in disguise. The disorder is named after Leopoldo Fregoli, an Italian theatre actor who was known for his remarkable ability to quickly change his appearance while on stage.

Fregoli syndrome typically occurs with other mental disorders, such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and obsessive-compulsive disorder. It can also be caused by brain injury and use of the drug levodopa in the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

A review in 2018 found that fewer than 50 cases worldwide had been reported since the condition was first described. However, a more recent study (2020) reported an incidence of 1.1 per ent among patients following a stroke, so certainly more than 50 cases but still very rare. There is no known cure for Fregoli syndrome, but treatment with antipsychotic drugs may lessen the symptoms.

2 Cotard's syndrome

Cotard's syndrome, also known as "walking corpse syndrome", is where people hold the delusional belief that they are dead and do not exist. Others believe that body parts are missing.

The syndrome is named after the 19th-century French neurologist Jules Cotard, who first described the condition in 1882.

Schizophrenia, depression, and bipolar disorder are risk factors for Cotard's syndrome. However, it has also been reported as a rare side-effect of the anti-viral drug acyclovir. The syndrome is thought to originate from a disconnection between the areas of the brain that recognise faces and the areas that associate emotional content with such facial recognition. This rare condition is usually treated with antidepressants, antipsychotics, and mood stabilisers, as well as electroconvulsive therapy.

3 Alien hand syndrome

Alien hand syndrome is one of the strangest neurological disorders. It is where a person's hand appears to have a mind of its own and acts autonomously, and where the person feels as though their hand doesn't belong to them.

This syndrome was first identified in 1908 but was not clearly defined until the early 1970s. The term "alien hand syndrome" was coined by Joseph Bogen, an American neurophysiologist, to describe a curious wayward behaviour occasionally seen during recovery from certain types of brain surgery.

People with alien hand syndrome typically have sensory processing disorders and dissociate themselves from the actions of their hand. Research indicates that people with the syndrome often personify the alien hand, and may believe it is possessed by some other spirit or alien life form.

Causes of the syndrome include dementia, strokes, prion disease (a fatal brain disease), tumours and seizures. Cases of alien hand syndrome have also been reported among patients who have had surgery to separate the left and right brain hemispheres to treat severe epilepsy.

The syndrome is very rare. A review in 2013 found just 150 cases in the medical journals.

Although there is no cure for alien hand syndrome, symptoms can be minimised and managed to some extent by keeping the affected hand occupied and involved in a task.

4 Ekbom's syndrome

Ekbom's syndrome is a tactile hallucination in which sufferers believe they are infested with parasites – often experienced as insects crawling under their skin. The syndrome is named after Karl Ekbom, a Swedish neurologist who first described the condition in the late 1930s.

The exact number of people who suffer from this syndrome is unknown, but one study reported around 20 new cases a year in a large US referral clinic.

According to a meta-analysis of 1,223 Ekbom cases, the syndrome is more common among women (two-thirds women, one-third men), and more common in those over the age of 40. Symptoms typically lasted three to four years.

Ekbom's syndrome is associated with several conditions, including paranoid schizophrenia, organic brain disease, neurosis, and paranoid personality disorder. Psychological treatments are often not wanted by Ekbom's syndrome sufferers, as they are convinced that the problem needs medical treatment.

5 Alice in Wonderland syndrome

Alice in Wonderland syndrome, also known as Todd syndrome, refers to when a person's sense of body image, vision, hearing, touch and space/time are distorted. People with the condition typically experience objects to be smaller than they actually are, while people seem bigger than they are. Or the opposite: objects are perceived to be larger than they are and people appear smaller. These experiences may be accompanied by feelings of paranoia.

Little is known about how common this disorder is. Sufferers are most commonly children and migraine sufferers. People with the condition can become frightened and panic-stricken, so successful treatment often includes rest and relaxation. In most cases, it is a relatively short-lived condition. The most recent review on Alice in Wonderland syndrome reported that close to half of all sufferers are treated successfully.

- By Mark Griffiths, Nottingham Trent University (The Conversation)

PLAYING TO PACKED HOUSES
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AN ACTION HERO FILMS PRODUCTION
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE GHAZI ATTACK
"A GRIPPING cinematic experience" (THE TIMES OF INDIA)
"PACY, ENGAGING and ENTERTAINING" (NEWS 9)
"Keeps you on the EDGE OF YOUR SEAT" (TELEGRAPH INDIA)
"A CLUTTER-BREAKING film" (NEWS18)
"A THRILLING untold story" (DNA)
"Vidyut KNOCKS IT OUT OF THE PARK" (INDIA TV NEWS)
IMDb 9.0/10
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PARAS

See, how far the rabbit hole goes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

interpersonal relations, and interaction with friends. Sometimes, suicidal and self-harm tendencies are the factors that govern the choice of treatment modality.

"Teens and kids are less likely than adults to have the classical symptoms of depression. Pills are prescribed when there is significant distress and if the child's or adolescents' quality of life is strongly impacted. The symptoms shown can vary with age. However, important things to look out for are behavioral changes: being more irritable, fussy or clingy and social withdrawal," said Dr. Vani P, MD Psychiatry, Apollo Clinic.

Self-diagnosis

Psychiatrists say while psychoactive medications become imperative in managing some cases, they are witnessing the trend of young teenagers self-assessing and diagnosing mental health issues with the help of the internet.

Experts also noticed that some kids were self-diagnosing on the internet and taking meds in higher doses

Some cases of children on a much higher dose than needed have also surfaced. Experts say, while many children's condition, after taking the antidepressants has improved, some had to leave school because they could not take academic pressure due to the high medication doses.

"I have come across a couple of cases when children did not need medication but have self-diagnosed and got a prescription from a non-psychiatrist. Then some were on such high dosages that it had left them totally in a trance and drowsy. It is very important that psychiatrists measure how well the child is doing and if the prescribed amount is appropriate. Parents should know that only a certified psychiatrist must properly assess and critically analyse children's mental health before any medication can be prescribed. In many cases, these medications are not needed, and the issue can be resolved with therapy," said Swati Banerjee, a counselor in a city-based private school.

Your Connect

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Rest in power, Tina

Legendary queen of rock 'n' roll who died at age of 83 was in India in 2000s on exploratory trip for film that was not to be

Tina Turner, who had Indians across generations dancing to songs such as "What's Love Got To Do With It", was all set to play "Shakti" in a film to be directed by Ismail Merchant and visited Varanasi and Kerala for an exploratory trip.

But the film, announced in the early 2000s, was not to be. And the queen of rock 'n' roll, a practising Buddhist who died at the age of 83 in her Switzerland home on Tuesday, spoke eloquently about the project, "The Goddess", and its "cosmic energy".

"The cosmic energy of Shakti attracted me to this film and the film to me. It signifies a new energy, new abilities and new beginnings. I fed the desire in me which wanted me to feel the energy of thousands of people in a stadium. Now I want to go to another message," Turner told the Eastern Eye in an interview in 2004.

Turner, who was 64 at that time, said her belief in "prayer" and the healing power of faith pushed her to say yes to the character.

"The epitome of my career was when I could fill a stadium of 190,000 people, but now I am ready to move into another kind of performance. I want to reinvent myself. Everyone expects Tina Turner to come back with a new album, but I will give them this movie," she told the UK-based publication.

Titled "The Goddess", the film was to be made under Merchant-Ivory Productions, named after the filmmaker and his partner-collaborator James Ivory.

> **"The cosmic energy of Shakti attracted me to this film and the film to me. It signifies a new energy, new abilities and new beginnings** – Tina Turner

It was met with protests from right wing elements in India who objected to Turner playing the Indian goddess.

The film could not lift off with Ismail Merchant's sudden death in May 2005 after a surgery.

In an interview with Eastern Eye, Merchant recalled the moment Turner came to his mind for the role.

"... I saw Tina Turner at radio City Music Hall performing in front of thousands of people. She arrived magnificently on a crane and landed in the audience. People went berserk when she did this... I thought, if there was something this woman can do then it is to become the goddess Shakti," Merchant had said.

It took him a decade to finalise the script. And it was only then that he approached the music icon. Determined to make the film despite objections, Merchant explained his stance in a statement titled "The Goddess".

He described Turner as "one of the great artists of our time" and one who had thrown herself "wholeheartedly into the project".

"In her recent trip to India, she said that she felt she had come home. An artist of such international stature should be welcomed coming to India, learning our traditions in order to portray them so that the whole world may know the glory of our music, dance, and spiritual ethos," Merchant said. **— PTI**

KAUSHIK JN

Taking charge

DGP Alok Mohan visited the Commissioner of Police office on Thursday for a meeting with Police Commissioner Pratap Reddy and other IPS officers

A quagmire of sorts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gets choked and the trash barrier gets overwhelmed. At the lakes, instead of water flowing through the barriers, the floating waste acts as a wall. This also leads to overflowing from rajakaluve," he said. Officials note that despite daily cleaning, a significant quantity of trash is accumulated at the trash barrier.

To curb the practice of roadside garbage dumping, marshals are making rounds and inspecting garbage to trace down offenders who are being fined. Personnel have been instructed to remove all garbage on the ground by 10 am. Marshals say that C&D waste lying on the sides of the road is also contributing to the problem. "The construction waste and debris from both sides get washed into the drains along with the silt, blocking the passage. When desilting is done, silt is left on the side and left unattended to. Even a small rain leads to flooding of roads. Reckless dumping of debris is happening on both sides of the road. There is a need for regular upkeep by pourakarmikas to remove waste off the roads. In some cases, grates are missing in drains leading to waste entering it," said a senior marshal.

Waste management experts feel that a proper system for the collection and transport of waste is the solution. "Dry and C&D waste also contributes to flooding and a proper collection system is the only way out. Officials must float tenders for the collection and transport of waste to ensure proper disposal of waste. A robust mechanism is needed to collect all waste from households and commercial spaces. Offenders must be strictly penalised and citizens must have a collective responsibility to keep the city clean," said Ram Prasad, a waste management expert.

Your Connect

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, V.BHARATH S/o Bellur Venkatesh Venkatachalasharma, aged 42 years, R/o No.S1 No. 590, Akshaya Apartment, 18th Main, 23rd Cross, Behind BWSSB Water Tank, P.P.Layout, Subramanyapura Post, Bengaluru- 560061 have changed my name to BHARATH V KASHYAP for all purpose Vide affidavit dated 18.05.23 before.B Gopalakrishna Notary

I, SAJAN KUMAR Alias SAJAN KOLINDAWALA S/o Late Niranjanlal Kolindawala, Residing at No 1687, 17th Main, J P Nagar II Phase, Bangalore-560078, I here by declare to SAJAN KUMAR and SAJAN KOLINDAWALA both the names are same vide affidavit dated 25/05/2023 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil. G.G Bangalore

I Anand.m S/O, Marappa R/o No 303, North Square Apartment 11 Cross Maruthi Layout Bhuvaneswari Nagar Bangalore 560024 have changed my name to Ananda.m

I, DEVI., R/at Ex MLA Srinivasa building, 2nd floor D J Halli Main Road, Bangalore-560045 have changed my name to NOOR FATHIMA vide affidavit dated: 17/10/2022 Before Notary Chandrashekar.M Bangalore.

I, Sudeshna Ghosh R/o 6B, Retreat Apartment #72/1 Cunningham Road Bengaluru 560001 have changed my minor son name from Arjun Sharma to ARJOON JOSHUAA SHARMA affidavit Dt.25/05/20 23 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Mary Sheeba W/O, R R Balasubramani R/o No 108 Zion Anusuya Chandrappa Layout M S Palya Vidyaranyapura Bangalore 560097 have changed my name to Mary Sheeba B for all purposes.

I, Rajasekaran Athi Arunachalam R/o 32, 8th Main road, Marathalli, B'luru-560037 have changed my name to Rajashekaran Adiarunachalam affidavit Dt.25/05/2023 Notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, Bengaluru

I Methapillai Rowther Abdul Jabar s/o M Rowther R/o #1474 2nd Floor South End B Main Road 9th Block Jayanagar B'luru-560069 have Changed my name to Abdul Jaffar Methapillai for all Purposes.

I, SABIRA YUSUF PATEL R/at No.74, 3rd Cross, Dinnur Kausar Nagar Bangalore-560032 have changed my name to SABIRA vide affidavit dated: 16/3/2023 Before Notary V.Rajashekhara Bangalore.

I Sameena Abdul Haleem Khan W/o Abdul Haleem Khan R/o 2nd Floor, #10/11, Kenchappa Road Cross, Frazer Town, Bengaluru-560005 have changed my name to Sameena Khan for all future purposes.

I,POORVIBEN Valjibhai W/o Pareshkumar Kanani R/o H-304, MRKR Mera Homes, Kadugodi-Hoskote Road, Seegehalli, Bengaluru-560067 shall henceforth be known as Kanani Poorvi Pareshkumar affidavit no IN-KA70475464800 157V sworn before notary M. Krishnamurthy dated24.05.2023

I Vijayakanth.T.R R/o #275 , 4th 'B' Cross, Lalbagh Road, K S Garden, B'lore-560027,I have changed my daughter's name from Chandana V to Chirasvi. V Affidavit Dt:25/05/2023 Before Notary K V Mani B'luru.

I Md Akram Raza S/O, Mohamed Mohiuddin R/o Masjid E Mohammadiya Varadapura Malur Road Hosakote Bangalore 562114 have changed my name to Md Akram Raza S/o Mahimuddin

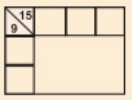
I, LAXMI GOPAL W/o Chakka Venugopal, R/a #174, 2nd D Cross, 5th Block, Nagarbhavi, II Stage, Bengaluru-560072 have changed my name to LAKSHMI CHAKKA VENUGOPAL vide affidavit dated 25.05.2023 before notary B.V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, Minu Mabel D/o Martin Doss M R/o #2, 1st Cross , VST Road Lingarajapuram B'luru-560084 have changed my name to Minu martin Doss for all purposes.

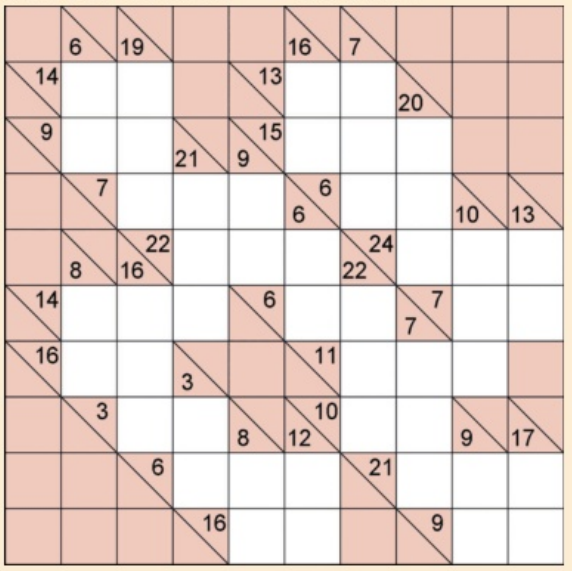
I Samay Sunil Verma S/O, Sonalben Sunil Verma R/o 501 Bld 3063 11th Main Rd 11th Cross Indiranagar 2nd Stage, Bengaluru, have changed my name to Samay Verma

Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



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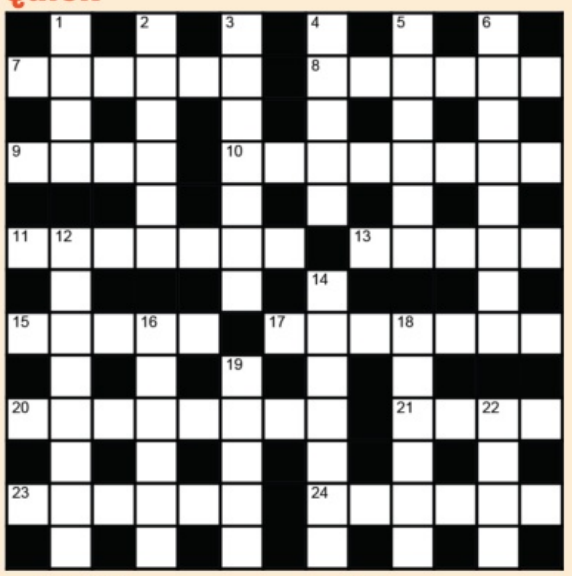


ACROSS

7 Water-depth measure (6)
8 Sparing (6)
9 Capital of Ukraine (4)
10 Port side (8)
11 Birds that feed on fish (7)
13 Tolerate (5)
15 Holiday spot in Karnataka (5)
17 Rougher (7)
20 Gaunt (8)
21 Watch over (4)
23 Application or endeavour (6)
24 Subtle difference (6)

DOWN

1 Indian garment (4)
2 Tremble with cold or fear (6)
3 Uses (7)
4 Blazing (5)
5 Soldier's trench (6)
6 Hollywood actress Jennifer ____ (8)
12 Recovered from, in a way? (5,3)
14 Country of the windmills? (7)
16 Type of deodorant, should we say? (4-2)
18 Formal procedure (6)
19 Condition (5)
22 Narrower part of a bottle (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: E EQUALS I

CPYL EW QCL GLLDEZO QCXQ QCL GLLDEZO RPV CXFL EWZ'Q YLJBXZLZQ.

Linemaro

Close your eyes and I'll kiss you, tomorrow I'll miss you

Mindchow

Just as much as we see in others, we have in ourselves

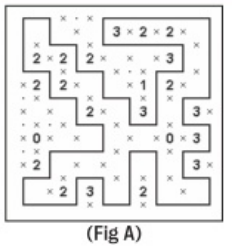
Joke of the day

Chuck Norris and Superman had a contest once to see who was the most powerful of them. The loser had to wear his underwear over his pants

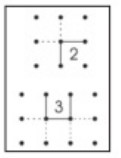
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

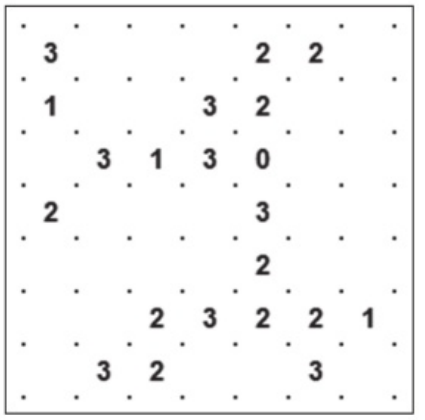


(Fig B) Not Allowed

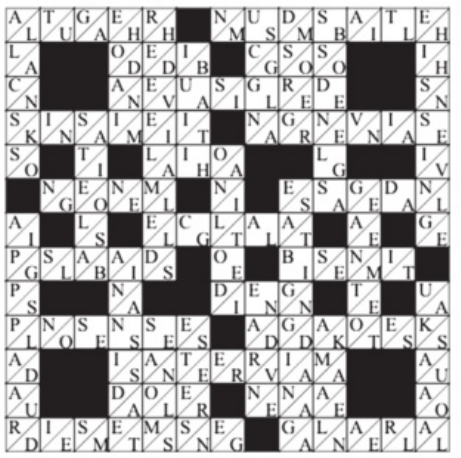
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



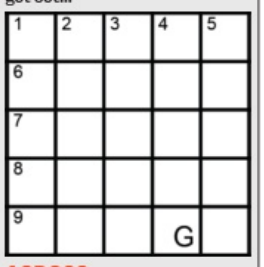
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

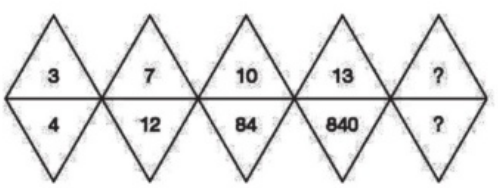
1 Sir BC; 6 Siren;
7 Oasis; 8 CK Hun;
9 Is gee

DOWN

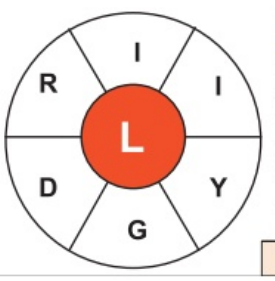
1 Or CCs; 2 Irish;
3 Is use; 4 Begin;
5 Skean

Mensapuzzle

What numbers should replace the question marks?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; **03** Good; **04** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		7				8		
9			5	3	1			7
		4	8		2	1		
4	7						1	8
			4		5			
6	1						3	2
		8	2		9	3		
2			6	8	3			9
		6				2		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 2

4 5 6 9

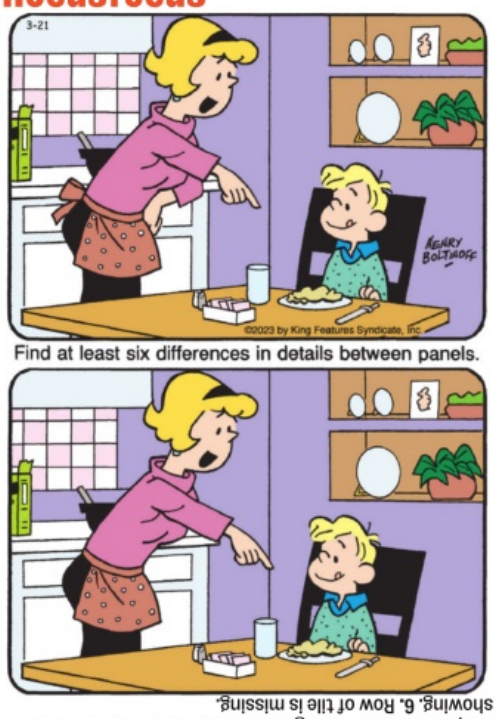
Medium = 12

3 3 4 8

Hard = 53

2 6 6 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Boy is moved. 2. Arm is longer. 3. Apron bow is missing. 4. Glass is moved. 5. Arm is not showing. 6. Row of tile is missing.

Riddler

Can you figure out the order of the books from the given hints? The black book is separated from the blue book by two other books. The red book is separated from the pink book by three books. The green book and the orange book are separated by the black book. The orange book is separated from the blue book by the pink book. The green book is separated from the first book by three other books.

Alpha triangle

1 1000 colloquially
2 Atomic number Forty Seven
3 Femina or Filmfare
4 Biblical wise men
5 Letter after rho
6 Spanish friends
7 A line on a map

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

3-8
IT'S TIME YOU TWO LEARNED SOME MANNERS!
STOP EATING WITH YOUR FINGERS AND GET SOME KNIVES AND FORKS!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I'VE LOST MY CRAVING FOR POTATO CHIPS!

Bizarrotrip

Whatever your job may be, you can do it and still look fabulous.
Wayno & Piraro 3-18-23
BIZARRO.COM
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RUPAUL BUNYAN

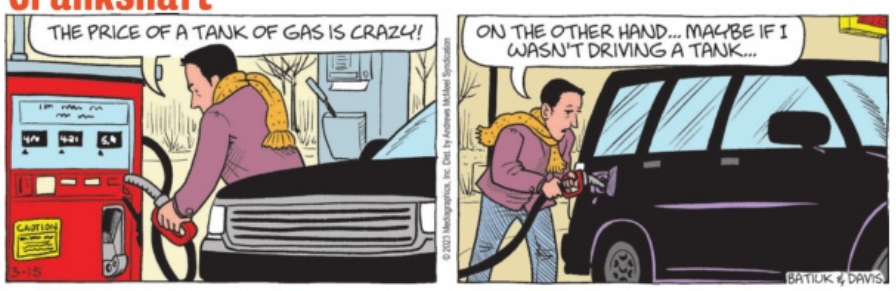
Diamond Lil

And now, a message from the National Council on Asking for a Second Helping of Kale:
SAID NO ONE EVER!
©2023 creators.com 3/18
www.creators.com
This has been a message from the National Council on Asking for a Second Helping of Kale.

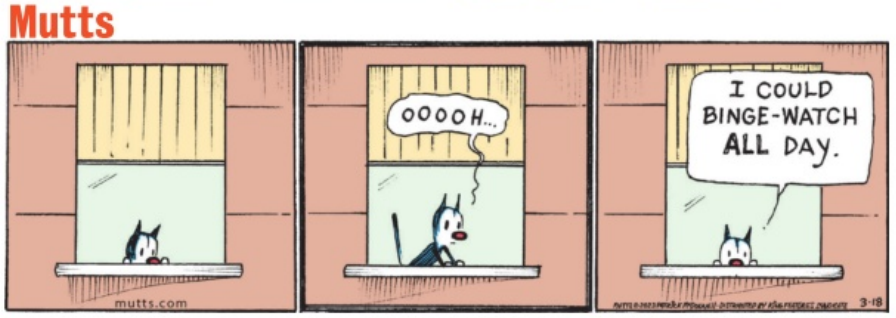
Hart of the city

SOME FOLKS FEEL AN INNATE NEED TO BE A PARENT.
I'VE ALWAYS FELT THAT WAY, EVEN WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE!
WOW, TALK ABOUT EARLY CAREER PLANNING!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 AKIDREMS MCNEEL
@OCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel healthy, and old health issues may be resolved now. You are likely to win some litigation. You have full control over your opponents and business rivals. Your money which was stuck is likely to be recovered now, which may boost your liquidity. You may likely get new responsibilities at work, which will give you benefits in the near future.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today may be mixed. You may be busy with kids' issues, and couples are likely to welcome a new born baby. Those couples that are trying for a child can hear some good news. With the help of wisdom, you may be able to settle disputes in your business and social life. Students may plan for overseas education. Those in jobs may make some plan for higher studies for a good career.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may feel disappointment at work. You may not be able to enjoy your life. You may face some losses in property matters. It is advised to postpone investments for a while, otherwise you may face losses. You are also advised to take care of your parents' health.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. You are likely to have inner strength. You may be able to make some difficult decisions at work. You may be busy at a social get together, which may expand your network. Your network may give benefits in the future in terms of work. Property disputes with siblings are likely to be resolved now.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may be busy with family. You may also plan for kids' academics. You may likely spend money buying some artefacts and creative stuff to renovate your house. You may plan to go for short trips. Kids' education may make you upset. You are advised to avoid any type of addiction, otherwise it may create some disturbance in your domestic life.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. With the help of courage, you may make good plans and are likely to implement them efficiently. You are advised to control overexcitement. You may likely make some mistakes. You are advised to read documents before signing them. Your rivals and opponents are now under control.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, your old health issues may arise again. Anxiety and restlessness may make you upset. You may likely become unfocused towards your goals. You may waste precious time doing worthless tasks. You are advised to control your spending on worthless stuff as it may affect your financial health.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, at the start of the day, you may not be focused towards your work, but with the help of elders' blessing, you may be able to control this messy situation .You may easily find resources which might be important for completion of the project. Your sources of income are likely to be increased. Your losses may be converted into profits, which may boost your financial health.

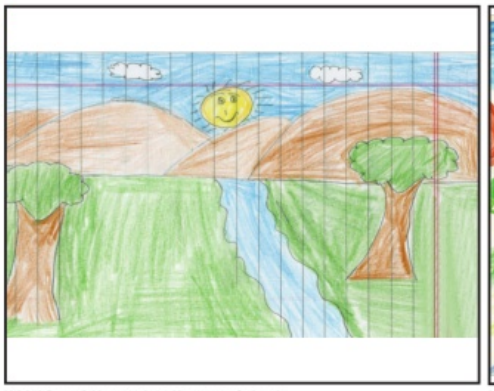
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you can expect some big orders from an overseas client. This will increase your liquidity in business. You are likely to meet some influential person, who may help you grow your business. Your bonding with your boss may become strong. You may expect some promotions because of hard work. Your prestige may be increased now.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you are blessed by your elders which may give you patience. You are likely to be happy and calm. You may plan to visit some spiritual place for seeking peace of mind. You may also donate some amount to charity. There may be some chances for overseas travel.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may feel dull. You may also have some health issues, which are likely to affect your day-to-day work. You find yourself under mysterious fear, which may make you sensitive and emotional. You are advised to avoid rash driving and adventure tours. You are also attracted to the occult.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, blessings from the moon may make you happy. You may help needy people. You are likely to analyse yourself and accept mistakes in your personal life. Faith in the relationship with your spouse may be improved, which may boost confidence. Disputes between partners may be resolved now.

KIDZONE



Nikhil Rao, 8 Years, Jain Heritage School

Lakshmidhar S, 6 Years, Nara Yana E-Techno School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
16 { ½ (45/10 x 4) } =
16 { ½ (180/10) } =
16 { ½ (18) } =
16 { 18/2 } =
16 { 9 } = 144

BULL'S EYE
gild, girl, idly, RIGIDLY

RIDDLER
Blue, pink, orange, black, green, red

QUOTE UNCODE
Hope is the feeling that the feeling you have isn't permanent.

FAST FIVE

C	R	I	B	S
R	I	S	E	N
O	S	S	I	A
C	H	U	N	K
S	I	E	G	E

STRIKE OUT

A		D	E	M	E	S	N	E		G	N	A	R	L
U		D	O	E		N	N	E		A				
A		I	N	T	E	R	I	M		U				
L	O	S	S	E	S		A	G	A	T	E	S		
P		N		D	E	N		E		U				
P	L	A	I	D		E	I	S	N	T				
A		L		E	C	L	A	T		E		G		
N	O	E	L		I		S	A	G	A	N			
S		T		A	H	A		G		I				
K	I	S	M	E	T		A	R	E	N	A	S		
C		A	V	A	I	L	E	D		S				
A		D	E	B		C	O	O		I				
L	U	G	E	R		M	U	D	B	A	T	H		

QUICK

S	S		E		A		D		L					
F	A	T	H	O	M		F	R	U	G	A	L		
R		I		P		I		G		W				
K	I	E	V		L	A	R	B	O	A	R	D		
	E			O		E		U		E				
O		L		A		A		U		E				
S	K	E	L	E	T	A	L		T	E	N	D		
O		O		S		L		I						
C	O	O	R	G		C	O	A	R	S	E	R		
O	S	P	R	E	Y	S		S	T	A	N	D		
	H			S		H					C			
S	C	H	E	T	A	L		T	E	N	D			
K	E	L	E	T	A	L		T	E	N	D			
F		N		D		L		K						

MENSA PUZZLE
16 at the top, 10,920 at the bottom. The top number is the sum of all the digits in the previous diamond (1 + 3 + 8 + 4 + 0). The bottom number is the product of the two previous diamond (13 × 840)

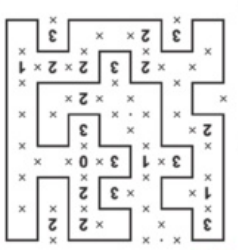
SUDOKU

3	9	6	1	5	7	2	8	4
2	4	1	6	8	3	7	5	9
7	5	8	2	4	9	3	6	1
6	1	5	7	9	8	4	3	2
8	2	3	4	1	5	9	7	6
4	7	9	3	2	6	5	1	8
5	6	4	8	7	2	1	9	3
9	8	2	5	3	1	6	4	7
1	3	7	9	6	4	8	2	5

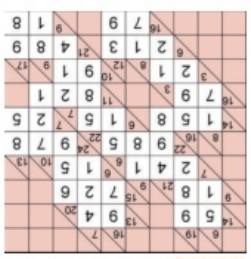
ALPHA TRIANGLE
G, Ag, Mag, Magi, Sigma, Amigos, Isogram.

GO FIGURE
Easy
9 − 6 + 4 − 5 = 2
Medium
4 × 3 / 3 + 8 = 12
Hard
2 + 6 × 6 + 5 = 53

LOOP



KAKURO



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Simply Sara — Sara Ali Khan and Vicky Kaushal launched the music of their new film on Wednesday in Mumbai. Post the event, Sara took a rickshaw as her car didn't come. The paparazzi spotted the actress taking an auto ride. Later, she waited to take some change back from the driver

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Birthday special

Ragini Dwivedi aka Thuppa Hudugi celebrated her birthday by organising a health camp for families of Kannada movie artistes and technicians. A blood donation camp was organised at Karnataka Chalanachitra Kalavidara Sangha on Wednesday. Ragini felicitated more than 20 senior character artistes on the occasion.

"I have been participating in social activities and have also helped many needy people during the pandemic. Around 60 people made use of the health camp. I plan to start a coaching centre for SSLC students who want to apply for supplementary exams. I also want to help the transgender community by providing shelters. Helping others gives me immense satisfaction," said Ragini.

Meanwhile, producer K Manju has announced a movie with Ragini playing a key role. It is said the movie would showcase the tussle between IPS and IAS officers. "I am grateful to Manju sir for announcing a movie on my birthday. I do not know the details. The announcement was a big surprise for me," Ragini said.

Ragini is busy with two Kannada movies, three Tamil movies, and one Malayalam movie. "Talks are on for a Hindi movie. I am yet to take a call on it. I want to thank all my well-wishers for their wishes," Ragini said. — **Y Maheswara Reddy**

New avatar

Vinayak Joshi, who produced Kannada web series Joshelay last year, has been busy with a new web series Meter Haaki Please. The web series is aimed to showcase the good deeds of auto rickshaw drivers. Joshi debuted in Sandalwood as a child actor in Nammoora Mandara Hoove in 1996. He has acted in over 80 Kannada movies till date. His recent movie is the sequel of Shivaji Surathkal. He has worked as a RJ.

"I come across many people criticising auto rickshaw drivers for their alleged rude behavior and demanding extra money from passengers. There are some auto drivers who not only behave properly but also help passengers. There are many drivers who have returned valuable items left by passengers in the auto," said Joshi.

Meter Haaki Please was made under the Joshi Chitra banner and its trailer was released by Gandhadagudi fame Amogha Varsha.

"The series will be made into seven episodes. It will be aired on YouTube and Spotify. I have met around 10 good auto drivers across the state. The duration of each episode is 40 minutes. I have to thank the 25-member team who worked for this web series," he said.

WAYS OF SEEING

Kangana Ranaut cautions youngsters on photoshopped beauty standards

Kangana Ranaut is known to speak her mind and is always quite opinionated about what she feels is right or wrong. The actress began her career with Anurag Basu's Gangster in 2006 and has come a long way now - as she has even turned producer and director.

A fan on social media shared an old video of Kangana from initial days in the industry and she looks quite naive. Her innocence is also hard to miss in this throwback video. The user shared this and wrote, "looking extremely beautiful in this unseen video during Gangster days. Who could've thought that this girl from the mountains, will one day rule Indian film industry. Her ability to break the ice & make an exception is what makes KanganaRanaut unique & revolutionary". The actress re-shared this video and spoke about falling in the trap of the beauty standards set by the society, only to regret it later. She tweeted, "Oh my God where did you find this?? It's strange when we are younger we are never happy with our appearance and later we regret the way we hated our appearance/achievements/ struggles almost everything, I don't know why all young women do that, the only reason could be teenagers are most vulnerable to brainwashing... and all those photoshopped beauty standards, magazine covers and products take advantage of that vulnerability... Be aware..." — **ETimes**

Dream girl

Actor Aditi Rao Hydari stole everyone's hearts with her appearance at the ongoing 76th Cannes Film Festival. Aditi, on Wednesday, stepped out in the French Riviera, looking like a dream in a sky blue Oscar de la Renta outfit. She took to Instagram and posted several images of herself in the gown. Undoubtedly, Aditi exuded princess vibes in this ensemble.

Aditi, who is representing a brand at the Cannes Film Festival, simply captioned the post, "Nice to meet you again Cannes." Her look received a big thumbs up from the audience. "Adorable," a social media user commented. "Beauty," Fashion stylist Anaita Shroff Adajania commented.

Aditi's rumoured boyfriend and actor Siddharth also reacted to the pictures. "Oh my (heart eye emoji and fire emoji)," he wrote. — **ANI**